

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 512

By Bailey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Noble Cody of
Cookeville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Noble Cody of Cookeville at the age of ninety-three; and

WHEREAS, an Army veteran, coach, educator, businessman, and devoted father, Noble Cody was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional, who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born in Clarkrange on July 16, 1922, to Virgil and Zona Hill Cody, Noble Cody was a graduate of Clarkrange High School and Tennessee Technological University (TTU); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cody's life of dedication and service began at the age of seventeen when he volunteered to join the United States Army at the beginning of World War II, serving with the 84th Infantry Division and earning the rank of corporal; and

WHEREAS, he fought in the Battle of Germany with the 333rd Infantry Regiment Unit, and also saw combat in the fight for Siegfried Line, the Rhine to the Elbe, the Battle of Geilenkirchen, Lindern, and the Battle of the Bulge; and

WHEREAS, he was awarded numerous medals for his valor and bravery, including the Combat Infantry Medal, the Bronze Star for Valor, two Bronze Stars for Meritorious Service, the European Theatre Medal, the Sharp Shooting Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal; and he received an honorable discharge in January 1946; and

WHEREAS, upon his return to the United States, Noble Cody earned a degree from TTU and began his teaching and coaching careers; and

WHEREAS, he was hired in 1947 as the basketball coach at Clarkrange High School and had a record of eighty-four wins and thirteen losses. He then served as assistant basketball coach at TTU from 1951 to 1954, the basketball and football coach at Monterey High School until 1957, and principal of Algood School; and

WHEREAS, a skilled businessman as well as educator, Mr. Cody owned and operated Cody Office Supply, which he started out of his garage, for thirty years, and served as chief executive officer of Tennessee Savings Bank for thirteen years; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Governor Don Sundquist appointed him to serve on the Tennessee Board of Regents as chairman of the personnel committee and committee of community and public affairs, and numerous other committees; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure on the Tennessee Board of Regents, he served on the presidential search committee for Roane State Community College, Walters State Community College, and Motlow State Community College. He also secured approval for a new building for TTU's School of Nursing, which named their executive lounge and dining room in his honor; and

WHEREAS, a proud alumnus of Tennessee Technological University, Noble Cody was a member of the TTU Sports Hall of Fame, and spent many years supporting athletics and the Tech Foundation. In 2006, the university honored him with a naming ceremony for the Noble Cody Executive Suite in the Roaden University Center; and

WHEREAS, continuing his commitment to serving others, Noble Cody served as a member of the Health Facilities Commission of Tennessee; he was elected to the Cookeville City Council in 1994, and served two terms as mayor of Algood, which became an incorporated city under his leadership, and two terms on the board of Cookeville General Hospital; and

WHEREAS, an active member of his community, he was instrumental in establishing junior pro basketball in Putnam County; he served as president of the Monterey Jaycees and as a member of the Optimist Club, Lions Club, and the Cookeville Rotary; and

WHEREAS, the Cookeville Lions Club Man of the Year in 1973, Mr. Cody also held an interest in politics, and was known as the grandfather of the Republican Party of Putnam County; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Noble Cody enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Gladys Jean Hall Cody; his children, Preston (Trudy) Cody, Jeanie Cody Holder, Lindsey Cody, and Tracy (Audrey) Cody; and

WHEREAS, he is further survived by his grandchildren, Austin Cody, Kelly Holder Wright, Michael Cody, and Samuel Cody; step-granddaughter, Kisa Cox; great-grandson, Cody James Wright; and step-great-grandson, Kyndall Cox; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cody also leaves behind one sister, Margie Cody South, and one brother, Dee Cody, and many nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Noble Cody leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Noble Cody, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Noble Cody.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.